UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO WESTERN DIVISION AT CINCINNATI

PAT TISDALE : Case No.

1050 Clinton Street

Ironton, Ohio 45638

: <u>COMPLAINT WITH JURY</u>

Plaintiff, : <u>DEMAND</u>

vs.

VED. 0.4 C. V. V. C. V. C. V. C. V. C. V. C. V. C. V. V. C. V. C. V. C. V. C. V. V. C. V. V. C. V. V. V. C.

DIVERSICARE LEASING LP
D/B/A AND A/K/A BEST CARE
NURSING AND REHABILITATION

CENTER

2159 Dogwood Ridge Road Wheelersburg, Ohio 45694

Serve: :

Diversicare Leasing LP : c/o Corporation Service Company : 3366 Riverside Drive, Suite 103 : Columbus, Ohio 43221 :

:

Defendant.

PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. Plaintiff Pat Tisdale (hereinafter "Plaintiff") is a resident of Ohio and a citizen of the state of Ohio.
- 2. Defendant Diversicare Leasing LP d/b/a and a/k/a Best Care Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (hereinafter "Defendant") is a Tennessee for profit limited partnership that holds itself out to the public as a provider of medical care, including but not limited to, rehabilitation and skilled nursing care. Its place of incorporation and principal place of business are in Tennessee.

- 3. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this case because there is diversity of citizenship between Plaintiff and Defendant and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.
 - 4. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant.
 - 5. This Court is a proper venue for the claims in this Complaint.

BACKGROUND

- 6. In April 2022, Plaintiff was a patient at Best Care Nursing and Rehabilitation Center ("Best Care") for nursing home services.
- 7. During her stay and treatment at Best Care, on or about April 23, 2022, Defendant failed to properly care for Plaintiff. As a result of this failure of care, Plaintiff fell and fractured her back. The failure of care on the part of the Defendant caused Plaintiff's injuries.
- 8. After Plaintiff fell and broke her back, Defendant failed to provide her appropriate post-fall care and failed to promptly send her to the hospital, causing Plaintiff further injury.

CLAIM ONE – NEGLIGENCE

- 9. Defendant owed a duty of care to Plaintiff to meet the applicable standard of care for a reasonable nursing facility in the same or similar circumstances.
 - 10. Defendant breached the standard of care by:
 - a. failing to ensure that the premises were safe for Plaintiff;
 - b. failing to prevent Plaintiff's fall;
 - c. failing to prevent injury to Plaintiff;
 - d. failing to provide appropriate nursing care to Plaintiff after she fell; and
 - e. otherwise acting negligently during the treatment of Plaintiff.
- 13. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's negligence and its agents' negligence, Plaintiff suffered personal injury and her injuries are permanent.

CLAIM TWO – PUNITIVE DAMAGES AGAINST DEFENDANT

- 14. Plaintiff restates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 13 of her Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
 - 15. Defendant acted with malice and in conscious disregard for Plaintiff.
 - 16. Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages against Defendant.
 - 17. Plaintiff is entitled to recover her attorney's fees and expenses against Defendant.

<u>CLAIM THREE – NURSING HOME RESIDENT RIGHTS VIOLATION</u> <u>PURSUANT TO R.C. § 3721.13.</u>

- 18. Plaintiff restates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 17 of her Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 19. Defendant, directly or through its employees and/or agents, violated Plaintiff's rights as a resident of the Defendant's facility, as enumerated in R.C. § 3721.13, including, but not limited to, the right to a safe environment and to have adequate and appropriate medical treatment and nursing care.
- 20. These violations constitute negligence per se and give rise to a statutory cause of action.
- 21. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's violations of R.C. § 3721.13, Plaintiff endured personal injury, conscious pain and suffering, permanent injury, and was otherwise harmed.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendant in excess of \$75,000 as follows:

- (a) that Plaintiff be awarded compensatory damages;
- (b) that Plaintiff be awarded punitive damages against Defendant;

- (c) that Plaintiff be awarded attorney's fees; and
- (d) that Plaintiff be awarded all other relief to which she may be entitled.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff demands a jury trial on all claims and issues that can be tried by a jury.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Eric Kiser

J. Eric Kiser, Esq. (0101570) Louis C. Schneider, Esq. (0076588) Thomas Law Offices, PLLC 250 East Fifth Street, Suite 440 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Ph: (513) 788-4966 Fx: (513) 993-1369 eric.kiser@thomaslawoffices.com lou.schneider@thomaslawoffices.com Attorneys for Plaintiff